## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 have been canceled. Claims 9-17 are pending. Prompt and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

Stephen G. Adrian

Reg. No.: 32,878 Attorney for Applicant

Tel: (202) 822-1100 Fax: (202) 822-1111

Attachments: Utility Patent Application Transmittal (Divisional)

Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO Form 1449

MJC/SGA/rer